

THE ANGEL OF PEACE

salvation, allowed him to be brought to this fate which was sweet for his soul. And you should be the lover of his soul rather than of his body; for the body is mortal and a finite thing, but the soul is immortal and infinite. The supreme Providence has provided for his salvation, while it gives you these sorrows to bear in order to have something for ^B which to reward you in eternal life. I promise you, dearest sister, that, if you do so, God will even put you back into your temporal house, and you will ultimately return to your native land, Jerusalem, the vision of peace."ⁱ

There were further negotiations for peace during the summer, which failed because of the excessive demands made by the Pope. After four months at Anagni, whither Gregory had gone at the end of May, the Florentine ambassadors returned and described the situation as hopeless. On the morning of October 6 (1377), the Signoria summoned a parliament, a general council of all the citizens to meet in the Palazzo Vecchio, to hear the report of the ambassadors. They found the whole assembly unanimous in declaring that the Pope's terms must be rejected and the war continued at all costs. Ristoro Canigiani, Catherine's zealous disciple, who spoke in the name of the College of the Ten of Liberty, was as emphatic as Donato Barbadori himself, who was the speaker of the College of the Gonfalonieri. It was decided that the war should be carried on until a better peace could be obtained, that the interdict should be disregarded, and Mass said again throughout Florence and the contado. The clergy who had left the dominions of the Republic were ordered to return under the heaviest penalties, and all citizens bidden attend Mass, under pain of denunciation, no excuses being accepted. The Eight were confirmed in office for another year, and a new magistracy of ten appointed to levy fresh taxes upon the priests and religious,

¹ Letter 264 (324). Cf. St. Antoninus, III. pp. 385, 386; Durante Dorio, *Istoria della famiglia Trinci* (Foligno, 1638), pp. 165-174 ; Pellini, I. pp. 1188-1190. Corrado ruled Foligno until 1386, when he died childless, and Ugolino, the son of Trincio and Jacoma, succeeded him, added Montefalco to his dominions, and in 1392 received investiture as papal vicar from Boniface IX.